

PORT WELFARE COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the Port Welfare Committee Meeting
held on 23 March 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room B,
22nd Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong**

Present

Mr Timothy Scott Huxley	Chairman	Hong Kong Shipowners Association
Mr Fared Ahamad Khan	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Captain Savio Fernandes <i>(on behalf of Captain Umesh Lulla)</i>	Member	Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce
Captain Wu Kwok Hau <i>(on behalf of Mr Michael Marques)</i>	Member	Merchant Navy Officers' Guild - Hong Kong
Ms Emma Chiu	Member	Hong Kong Seamen's Union
Ms Esther Chan	Member	Labour Department (ex-officio)
Dr Allen Chan <i>(on behalf of Dr Raymond Ho)</i>	Member	Department of Health (ex-officio)
Dr Stephen Li	Member	Marine Department (ex-officio)
Mr Jack MF Chan	Secretary	Marine Department (ex-officio)

In attendance

Mrs Carrie Wong	Marine Department
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The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the following persons -

- (a) Mr Fared Ahamad Khan who had replaced Mr Simon Buhelt Frank as representative of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce;
- (b) Captain Savio Fernandes who attended the meeting on behalf of Captain Umesh Lulla as representative of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce;
- (c) Captain Wu Kwok Hau who attended the meeting on behalf of Mr Michael Marques as representative of Merchant Navy Officers' Guild - Hong Kong; and
- (d) Dr Allen Chan who attended the meeting on behalf of Dr Raymond Ho as representative of the Department of Health (DH).

AGENDA ITEMS

I. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 25 September 2015

- 2. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed without amendment.

II. Financial Position of the Committee as at 7 March 2016

- 3. The Chairman briefed members on the financial position of the Committee as at 7 March 2016 as follows -

Savings Account	\$388,073
Current Account	\$ 25,960
Balance :	<u>\$414,033</u>

- 4. The Chairman said that the Marine Department's Treasury Accountant/Internal Audit had served as the Honorary Auditor for the Committee. He proposed and members agreed to the re-appointment of the Marine Department's Treasury Accountant/Internal Auditor as the Honorary Auditor of the Committee for 2016-17. On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman expressed appreciation of the Treasury Accountant/Internal Audit's professional assistance given to the Committee.

III. Donations Received by the Committee as at 7 March 2016

5. The Chairman reported that in response to the Committee's appeal for donation for 2015-16, a total of \$338,900 had been received from 30 donors as at 7 March 2016. Compared with the donation of \$369,700 received from 36 donors last year, this year's donation was \$30,800 less than that of 2014-15.

6. Nonetheless, the Chairman was of the view that although there was a drop of the donation by \$30,800 this year as compared with that of last year, the total donation to the shipping community had actually gone up. The Sailors' Home and Missions to Seamen's Annual Maritime Charity Dinner held on 19 November 2015 had attracted a substantial amount of fund from the shipping community for the welfare of the seafarers visiting Hong Kong.

IV. Allocation of Grants to Agencies

7. Taking into account the donation received in 2015-16, the Chairman proposed and members agreed that the following amount of subsidies to be granted to the two agencies in 2015-16 -

The Sailors' Home & Missions to Seamen	\$350,000
The Danish Seamen's Church	\$ 35,000
Total :	<u>\$385,000</u>

8. The meeting noted that \$29,033 would be reserved for contingency.

V. Any Other Business

(a) Redevelopment of the Mariners' Club

9. The Chairman advised that there was no significant development regarding the redevelopment project.

(b) Zika Virus Infection

10. Dr Allen Chan of DH said that Zika virus infection was mainly a mosquito-borne disease. Members were reminded to protect themselves from mosquito bites to prevent Zika virus infection. He would forward the fact sheet on Zika virus infection for Members' information and further dissemination after the meeting.

[Post meeting note: The fact sheet and related information were received and forwarded to the Members on 24 March 2016.]

11. The meeting noted that the Marine Department had also issued Hong Kong merchant shipping information note about the Zika virus disease to shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters, officers and crew.

(c) Celebration Events for the International Maritime Organization's Day of the Seafarers

12. Ms Emma Chiu of Hong Kong Seamen's Union informed the meeting that a number of events would be organised to celebrate the Seafarers Day.

VI. Date of Next Meeting

13. The Chairman advised that the next meeting of the Committee would be held in September 2016. The Secretary would inform members of the details in due course.

14. There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

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(Mr Timothy Scott Huxley)

Chairman

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(Mr Jack MF Chan)

Secretary

27 September 2016